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Agenda item 4

INTEGRATING TRADE, ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT: RECENT PROGRESS AND OUTSTANDING ISSUES

Agreed conclusions */

1. The Commission on Trade in Goods and Services, and Commodities, with reference to paragraph 91(iv) of "A Partnership for Growth and Development", reaffirms the importance of pursuing the work that the fourth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development proposed for UNCTAD.

2. The Commission encourages UNCTAD to continue its technical assistance programme, particularly in promoting a better understanding of the linkages between trade, environment and development through its conceptual, empirical and analytical work.

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*/ Adopted by the Commission at the 5th (closing) meeting of its first session, on 21 February 1997.

3. The Commission decided to convene, in accordance with "A Partnership for Growth and Development" and the UNCTAD calendar of meetings as contained in TD/B/43/INF.1/Rev.2, the following expert meetings to:

(a) Examine positive measures, including innovative approaches to them, in the context of promoting sustainable development, particularly in meeting the objectives of multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs).

(b) Examine the operation, and the possible trade and investment impacts, of environmental management standards, particularly the ISO 14000 series, on developing countries, and the identification of possible opportunities and needs in this context.

4. The Commission took note that the UNCTAD and WTO secretariats are jointly conducting a study on "Tariff peaks and escalation in the post-Uruguay Round context", and decided that this study be made available to its second session as a background document.

5. The Commission also took note of the interest expressed for future expert work in the following areas:

(a) Examination of the relationships and interlinkages between the tourism sector, the environment and development in developing countries;

(b) Analysis of the role of FDI in promoting access to and transfer of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries;

(c) Innovative instruments to improve the export possibilities for commodities produced in a sustainable way, especially from LDCs.